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23 FEB 1967

Mr. Harry R. Van Cleve
General Counsel
General Services Administration
Washington, D. C. 20405

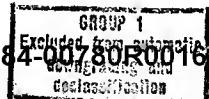
Dear Mr. Van Cleve:

Mr. Houston passed me your letter of January 16, 1967. The Central Intelligence Agency interest in the FCC inquiry into computers and communications facilities (FCC Docket 16979) lies in the twin assurance of right of access to commercial facilities through private terminals and privacy of records of the customer of automated communications/information facilities.

It is absolutely essential that CIA communications systems be permitted to install customer owned, customer operated and customer maintained equipment at terminal locations. These systems equipments are associated with cryptographic devices which provide an optimum positive protection for Agency information which must move from terminal to terminal via common carriers. In this respect we urge that the FCC inquiry not provide a forum for carriers to limit further the rights of communication users to provide private terminals or the access of such terminals to interconnection with data processing services.

Our Agency is at least equally concerned as other users with privacy in our participation in automatic data nets. We are anxious that information available to individual users of a computer based or computer related system make no reference either to the other customers in the system or to the extent of others' use of the system.

SECRET



CIA as other US Government organizations wishes to obtain more and better communication facilities at the lowest rates which will assure such services. The most urgent requirement in communication from computer to computer is to secure high speed transmission with great accuracy.

Sincerely,

SIGNED R. L. Bannerman

R. L. Bannerman
Deputy Director
for Support

25X1 OPPB/IPS [redacted] cap (23 Feb '67)

Distribution:

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DDS Chrono, Subject

1 - General Counsel

1 - Mr. Charles Briggs

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DATE

14 Apr 67

TO: Mr. Womfield
VIA:

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REMARKS:

Recommend your signature.


HM

FROM:

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FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 53REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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